

## Students rally to end further cuts

by Kathleen Horgan and Christine Wilson  
Strobe staff

On October 18, 1989 upwards of 15,000 students rallied in Boston at the Statehouse. Every state college and university with the exception of Massachusetts Maritime and The University of Lowell (who attended a small rally last week), was represented. Speakers from several colleges including Framingham State College, Roxbury Community College, Cape Cod Community College, and Southeastern Massachusetts University, addressed the masses in a futile attempt for recognition by State legislators regarding budget cuts. Fitchburg State College alone has amassed \$1.2 million from the projected \$25 million cut from the 28 colleges.

The rally commenced when students marched to the Statehouse, carrying banners of protest about the budget cuts. After much confusion, students were directed to the Boston Common where they were greeted by Matthew Plache, Vice President of State Student Association of Massachusetts (S.S.A.M.), who welcomed the students to "State College Alternative Education Day." Third Rail, a rock band from the University of Lowell, proceeded to stir up the crowd with their own rendition of the Rolling Stone's "Satisfaction". Shortly after the band's third number, a student leaped from the crowd stating "We are not here to celebrate. Our main purpose for being here is over there," as she pointed to the State House.

David Varela, Student Government President of Framingham State College and Student Program Coordinator of the rally was the next to address the crowd. He expressed his concerns about the future of public higher education. Varela stated that "it is imperative that the Legislature hears our concerns ... but if nothing is

done, 'They should take the STATE off of state colleges', because they don't own them (the colleges)."

George Ellison, member of the Board of Regents and an alumnus of the Massachusetts State College system, was next to address the crowd. He acknowledged the fact that most state college students work more than 20 hours per week and carry a full time course load. He added that when he was asked by a reporter whether he believed in public higher education, he replied, "I am a proud graduate of Salem State College." He continued by stating that 29 members of his immediate family are all graduates of the Massachusetts Public Higher Education system. Ellison was pleased to announce that \$10 million was returned to the state colleges, producing a \$25 million cut rather than a \$35 million. But the students as well as Ellison feel that \$25 million is still a large portion, and could be detrimental to the future of Massachusetts.

He stated, "it's time that they (legislature) learned enough is enough." This statement invoked an overwhelming response from the students. "When is administration going to learn that we are not a liability, but the cultural and economic future of this state," added Ellison. "When are they going to stop treating us as second class citizens who come begging with heart in hand." He then reiterated the consequences of the cuts; immediate higher fees and tuition, course closings, and faculty loss (both tenured and part time). This frustrated man concluded by saying, "you are the voices of the future."

In between speakers, students from the Massachusetts College of Art acted as poll bearers as they paraded a cardboard casket through the crowd. Adorned around the casket were signs stating "Public Higher Ed. R.I.P."

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Students display banners of protest

Strobe photo by Todd Lajole

## Student rally observation: the psychology of a mob

by Jesse Wilson  
Contributing Writer

October 18, I participated in and simultaneously observed, as objectively as possible, a rally of students who gathered to protest education budget cuts. I must admit I had prior reservations about the event. Having observed the student strikes of the early 70's I was aware of the ability of a crowd to succumb to "mood swings". Therefore, my participation in the rally was rather reserved because I wanted to maintain a modicum of security for my ideals and my person.

I was very impressed with the pre-organization of the rally. The transportation problem was adequately handled considering the unexpected increase in student turnouts. Boston Police seemed prepared to handle the traffic and parking problems. Staging, entertainment and even protest signs were all "magically" in place when we arrived. Then...

As we walked to the Statehouse steps I suddenly realized that we were each on our own. There were no familiar organizers, just hundreds of new faces carrying placards. Various types of personalities began to emerge. Two tall boys were slap-boxing, several girls and women were considering shopping, others were using the opportunity as a social event, opportunists abounded. "Radical", subversive literature was available on a display table. Communist sympathizers straight out of a Tolstoy novel were handing out issues of "Workers of the World" or some other suitably named publication. Casual passersby were suddenly swept up in this wave of protestors, a little overwhelmed and confused by the suddenness. For a moment I felt I was in a pilgrimage of lemmings.

Ahead lay the Statehouse and there I momentarily found some direction. A few people had bullhorns, a few more were handing out leaflets (with valid information) and yet, I did not know these people and therefore, had reservations about their authority. After a few more minutes I assessed that, whether legitimate or not, the bullhorn folks were not leading anybody. The crowd was more impressed both negatively and positively, by a number of extroverts who positioned themselves in areas of high visibility. Chanting was not well led and tended to die out soon after starting. I noted a few signs denoting particular schools, yet I could find no pattern to their locations.

For the most part the students were on their best behavior. Within the massive crowd were small groups of related (from the same school) students rallying for their cause. But without a notable leader all efforts seemed misdirected. Unfortunately, the extroverts (all displaying rather low levels of maturity) were doing the most to rally the crowd.

A notable, but futile, effort was being made by a small group to register voters. I take special note of this because of my feeling that voters, not protesters, are going to make a difference to elected officials. Amazingly, President Mara did not mention this to the students when he met with them last Thursday.

Of the students attending I perceived many different levels of awareness. Some were there just to socialize, others seemed caught up in the "pseudo-grown-up" activity of protesting, a few were politically and morally aware, a few others chose to "perform" for the audience and, thankfully, the majority were exhibiting responsible social and moral judgement.

Mob psychology is a scary subject. It seemed to me that even

though most participants exhibited mature behavior they were still succumbing to the leadership, however misdirected, of a few squeaky wheels. The final outcome was that these few extroverts' actions were the ones on which the group was judged.

News reporters love turmoil and though the large numbers of "good" students were noted, the emphasis in their reports lay in the violent actions of a few. The editing of the event's film footage balanced a few minutes of blasé crowd shots with a few seconds of violent action (blamed on the students) and selective quotes from angry politicians. The media even emphasized that the grounds were trampled. How insane to expect TWENTY THOUSAND people to stand in line on the sidewalk. As for the flowers torn up by one miscreant - my wife (a horticulturist) gathered up and disposed of the remains, a fact that went unreported, but witnessed and commended by several police officers.

The students were provoked by being deprived of their right to lobby their legislators. I can understand the need for security, however, the students had not yet done anything as a group to warrant restriction of their rights. Therefore, as a psychological play, barring their entrance to the legislative lobby was a poor, but perhaps, planned antagonistic move guaranteed to provoke and discredit the group as a whole. Who made that tactical decision? It would have been more reasonable to allow entrance to a few spokespersons, while still maintaining mob security.

I have never been considered a letter-writing, placard-waving activist, but I do know an injustice when I see one, and I think the media, politicians and the police played a highly manipulative, psychological chess game that day...with the students, television viewers and voters as the pawns.



Students listen attentively to the organizers of the rally

Strobe photo by Beth Callanan



# Students rally to end further cuts

From page 1

Representatives from other state colleges addressed the crowd with their thoughts as well. David Wrightson of Cape Cod Community College forcefully voiced that Public Higher Education is crumbling around us and the legislature is letting it happen. He added, "We are here, and we are not going to let it happen." This sent the crowd into a chant of "No More Cuts...". Stacey A. Simms of Mass Bay Community College added that if the legislature does not address this issue, "We the students, will remember these legislators. See you in November". Christopher Cooney, of Southeastern Massachusetts University sent his own message to the crowd and the legislature stating "If you want to do anything to us, for us, or with us ... you have to go through us". Anthony Tsougranis of the University of Massachusetts Boston told the crowd "this is the beginning of the end of student apathy".

Rosanne Bacon, President of Massachusetts Teachers Association opened with, "You (the students) are the Massachusetts Miracle." She continued by stating that Massachusetts education is the best in the nation, what it doesn't have, however, is the best support. She explained that the students' presence represented the thousands of students who were denied admittance to state colleges this year because of budget cuts, the thousands of students who will not be able to afford a college education next year, and the thousands that won't get the classes they need to graduate on time. "Today you are the teachers and I feel like a student," continued Bacon. "Stay alive, stay involved, and vote, vote, vote."

Bob Haynes of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of

Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), has long been a leading voice of public higher education. He strongly urged the crowd to give a message to the legislature and tell them who will be elected next year.

Donna Brown, Student Regent, commented that of all states, Massachusetts is ranked third in job salaries yet it is ranked 38th in supporting public higher education.

A representative of the United States State Student Association was present at the rally, demonstrating support from the entire nation.

David Valera of Framingham State concluded the rally when he asked the legislators to put their private work behind and begged them to use their skills to aid us "in this mess we're in." He then urged students to return to the Statehouse to speak with their representatives.

This proved to be a devastating tactic. When the students returned to The Statehouse, Capital and Boston police had barricaded the front entrances to the Statehouse. Unfortunately, some students became enraged when they were not allowed entrance to the building, and police urged the students to disperse. However, an unconfirmed number of students willingly broke through the police barricade dragging many unwilling students with them. Jacqueline Lewis, a legislator from Bridgewater, was knocked down outside of the house chambers in the process. She was not seriously injured.

Four students were arrested. Two on charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and two on charges of disorderly conduct. Although four arrests occurred, these students made up less than one percent of all students in attendance. It should also be noted that at least \$10,000 worth of damage was sus-

tained due to the protest. According to the October 19th issue of the Boston Herald, Gregory Arnold, the Statehouse Building Superintendent, was quoted as saying "The flowers are gone. We've got broken lights and gutters that have been ripped down. There are doors that have been sprung, and in some cases broken."

According to President Vincent J. Mara, the rally was a positive event. He used the contemporary term "awesome" as he stated that he was proud of all students who attended the rally. He commended their enthusiasm and felt that the students "grew a couple of inches and walked proud". He concluded by stating that students should feel proud, and should not be discouraged by the media coverage.

James Buckley a student at FSC felt although it (the rally) didn't do much for the legislative branch of state government, it made the students realize that there is a problem. He stated "The rally is just the tip of the iceberg; there is much more work to be done."

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ED. Note. We have completed phase one of our plan to encourage legislators to vote in favor of public education. What we must do now is write letters to our representatives. Please inform your parents to do the same. SGA has posted sheets with names of all legislators, outside of their office.

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# Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

"What do you mean I need my yellow ticket to eat?" This has become a common concern for the coerced members of the DAKA meal plan. DAKA's latest move of brilliance: slowing down lines at both the dining commons and the commuters cafe to what seems like the pace of the streets in Boston during rush hour traffic. Some students are getting very aggravated, and those stupid little yellow dots are everywhere. Someone came up with the bright idea that everyone gets a plastic, hole punched card so that we can have the opportunity to eat at the commuters cafe. Why? The food is no better over there.

This campus isn't the type where you need a bus to get from one class to another if you want to be on time. DAKA is right in the middle of campus and easily accessible to everyone if they are hungry. This simple three-lettered question could be answered many different ways. Let's try to come up with an answer. How about, "It was an experiment." Well, thanks for asking our opinion. Next time, why don't you. We'll be happy to give it to you. I figure it's the least you could do for us. Each time I look down at my bill for this semester's DAKA expense, I wonder where this money is going to.

A Concerned Student

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## Announcements...

In the aftermath of last weeks northern California earthquake, The Red Cross needs help. To make a monatary contribution contact The Red Cross at 1-800-453-9000. To donate blood or other goods and services please contact The Red Cross North Central Mass. Chapter located at 114 Merriam Ave. in Leominster at 343-7429 or 537-3339.

For all of those interested in running indoor or outdoor track, please contact Professor James Sheehan at either the athletic office or the gym during school hours. The indoor season is due to begin in early December.

The Divorced and Separated Students Support Group announces its first meeting Thursday October 26, 1989 from 1:hM.m. For registration or more information, contact S. Gamero, Fitchburg State College, P.O. Box 3178, or call extension 3152.


The Strobe encourages all readers to express their views on any issue. The following are guidelines for submissions:

1. All submissions are to be typed and double spaced.
2. Letters to the editor must include the writer's name. If the writer wishes to remain anonymous, the Strobe will withhold the name. However, the name must still be included in the letter.
3. Commentaries and letters must be no more than 450 words in length and are subject to editing.
4. News and announcements from clubs should be no more than a few paragraphs.
5. The deadline for articles is every Monday, one week before the Wednesday publication date.

The Strobe is Fitchburg State College's weekly student newspaper, published every Wednesday throughout the semester. Our office is located on the bottom floor of the Hammond Building, just past the commuter's cafe. Our mailing address is:

## The Strobe

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## Question of the Week

### What did you think of the Rally?



A. I can really say that I am proud to have taken part in the rally. I thought we really made an impact in stressing the importance of higher education. It is just too bad that the news reports didn't see it that way. It's a bit discouraging.

-Vicki Grealey



A. It was wonderful that we state college and university students were able to make our presence felt on such a grand scale; However, it is too bad it such took such a self-serving issue like money to unite. Perhaps now we can show our strength and unity on more important issues, such as the environment, equal rights, and world hunger.

-Andy Gobeil



A. I thought it went really well, until I turned on the news and heard that we may have done more harm than good. I hope we did make some kind of positive impact. I can't see how we couldn't have.

-Kim Ryan



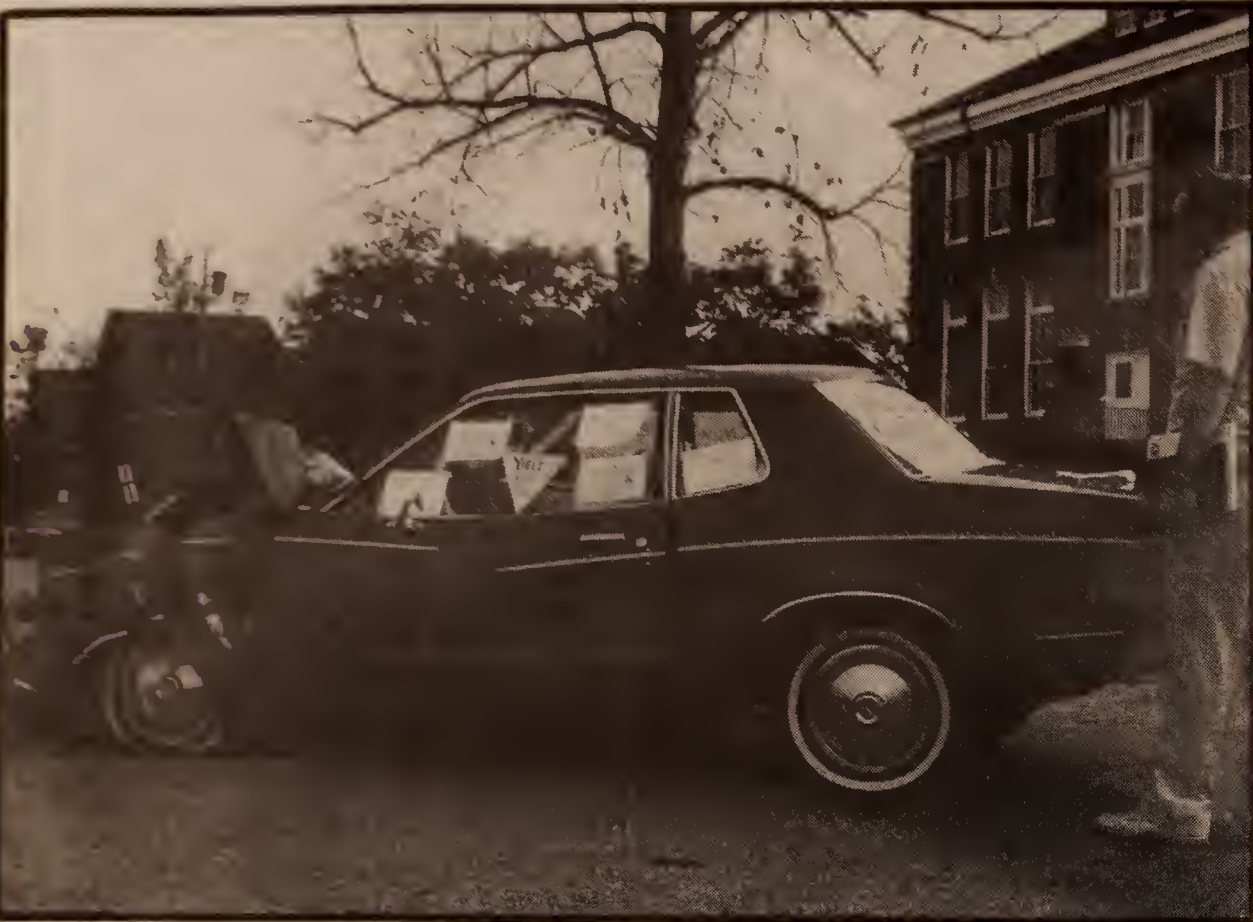
A. I think it was a great opportunity for students to express their feelings and concerns. It's too bad that the networks seemed to broadcast the few negative aspects and neglected to state the positive points.

-Donna Dorian

Strobe photos by Beth Callanan



# FEATURES



Crashed car brings attention to drinking and driving

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

## Alcohol Awareness Week held at FSC

by Lisa Amaral  
Strobe staff

Last week (October 16-20), campuses nationwide, including Fitchburg State College, participated in the annual alcohol awareness program. It was titled "The National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week" (N.C.A.A.W.) and focused on the educational promotion of alcohol use and abuse.

How many of you have a friend, roommate, or even an acquaintance who drinks so much that they can't remember their last name? They wake up the next morning with a chronic hangover, and are unable to stand on their own two feet, nevertheless get home safely. It may seem funny at the time, but all kidding aside, college students have to stop and think before taking that first drink. What it boils down to is responsibility.

Bobbi Crane, Student Life Coordinator,

worked diligently last week to give the students a chance to become more knowledgeable and alert of the many responsibilities involved with drinking. "One major objective was to get students to think twice about drinking and driving," stated Crane. Students from the organization Students Against Drunk Driving (S.A.D.D.) assisted Crane in this effort.

Other expectations that Crane had hoped to accomplish were having the students seek other alternatives rather than getting drunk at Saturday night keg parties. For the heavy drinker and the mild drinker, Crane's goal was to help students become aware of how much they are consuming and to know their limit. "I don't think there's anything wrong with drinking mildly, but it scares me when I see friends of mine so drunk that they can't remember a thing the next day," said Suzi Katz, a junior at FSC. In commenting on the turnout for the program the previous week,

Crane stated, "I believe it will be a good outcome. It will make the students think about how they're using their free time, and hopefully realize that they can have fun without drinking." Crane feels strongly that the students have to understand the laws and policies on campus, as well as in the community.

The students were given a variety of information about themselves and their friends concerning alcohol awareness at the meetings throughout the week. A few highlighted events included the crushed car exhibit, the breathalyzer display, and a guest speaker from the North Central Massachusetts Alcohol Commission. Following the guest speaker, mocktails were served and pamphlets were available for the students. In addition, there will be a student poster competition with \$20,000 in scholarship prizes throughout the month of October. For more information regarding the poster competition, please contact Student Affairs.

## The Amazing Randi: every con artist's nightmare

by Carolyn Palo  
Strobe staff

We've heard of them all: psychics, faith healers, astrology, psychokinesis—the supernatural. But do we believe it? This is what magician James Randi or "The Amazing Randi" represented. Since the 1960's, Randi has sought to uncover people who claim to have special powers, as frauds. These people include faith healers Peter Popoff, W.V. Grant and the Israeli psychic Uri Geller who was best known for the ability to bend spoons with his mind. The author of six books, a recipient of a \$272,000 "genius" award from the MacArthur Foundation and founder of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, Randi is undoubtedly every con artist's nightmare. During his presentation at the Kent Recital Hall, Randi emerged in a black suit with a microphone carefully tucked under his tie. His eyes were filled with excitement, like a child on Christmas morning, as he scattered witty remarks about the audience. He talked about Jeanne Dixon and the 365 predictions she made some time ago, only four coming true. He stated, "The zodiac has nothing to do with reality, it is mostly generalizations." He went on to show a clip from one of his many appearances on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, as he performed "psychic surgery" on a man. This consisted of blood and organ gurgling as Randi carefully removed body parts from the abdomen and deposited them in a bowl full of water. It was so believable, that the audience gasped while a few covered their eyes and ears. However, there was no incision made at all, the operation was fake, and this type of surgery is performed in the Phillipines and Brazil all the time. These so called psychic surgeons promise miraculous, painless

and lifesaving relief that a desperate patient may need. It's nothing psychic, more like sleight of hand. In most cases these patients spend their money to return home to die. The next clip was also from The Tonight Show, but this time it was to expose TV evangelist Peter Popoff who was supposedly gifted with healing power from God. Actually, before each show Popoff's wife Elizabeth would pump the audience for information about themselves and it would then be transmitted into Popoff's hidden receiver in his left ear and Elizabeth would be backstage directing him to the people she just pumped information from. During the presentation Randi said, "Popoff says that God speaks directly to him because he's an anointed minister, three things amaze me about that. First of all, it turns out that God's frequency, I didn't know that he used radio, is 39.170MHz, and that God is a woman who sounds just like Popoff's wife Elizabeth." After Randi had exposed Popoff and his wife with a chapter in his book, "The Faith Healers," the ministry they were in charge of, declared bankruptcy.

However Popoff is back in business doing radio. After showing the television clippings, Randi demonstrated how Uri Geller could bend spoons with his mind, and performed the trick for the audience. However he wouldn't give the secret away. The end of the presentation was to give the audience the opportunity to ask questions which Randi encouraged and answered with enthusiasm. By the end of the show, most of the audience seemed a bit more skeptical about the paranormal than when they had first arrived. Randi's appearance was part of the Visiting Artist and Lecturers Series which is focusing on the wonders of science this year. The series is funded by the FSC Foundation which supports programs not funded by the state.

## Marshall Farm: more than just apples

by Marlene Bell  
Strobe staff

Just a twenty minute walk from Fitchburg State College, there is 200 acres of something to do. The Apple Barn at Marshall Farm is a 200 acre apple farm with 160 acres currently in production. The Apple Barn offered "pick your own apples" for the entire month of September. MacIntosh, Cortland, Red and Golden Delicious are just some of the different types of apples to choose from.

Although there are other apple farms in the area, Marshall's is the closest to FSC and offers more than just apple picking. One can pick out

a pumpkin with or without a face and pay by the pound. Inside, they have a Country Gift Store to browse through and a bakery with caramel apples to tempt your nose and please your stomach. If browsing isn't what you had in mind, Marshall Farm offers a picnic area free of charge. You can bring a picnic lunch and some friends and enjoy the fall season and the view of Mt. Wachusett.

The Apple Barn at Marshall Farm is open everyday 8:30am to 5:00pm year round, and is located on 340 Marshall Road in Fitchburg. If you're like most students, looking for something to do off campus, without a car and limited funds, this might be something to look into.

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# FEATURES

## Elliot Hoffman: man of all hats

by Marlene Bell  
Strobe staff

Elliot Hoffman should probably own a hat shop. Writer, producer, lighting director, casting director, editor and teacher, the list can go on and on and on. A hat for every job and responsibility could fill Amelda Marcos' shoe closet. With a 20 minute drama beginning its circulation and a documentary currently being researched and planned, Hoffman still continues teaching classes in the Communications/Media department at Fitchburg State College.

Thanks to a Summer Research/Arts Grant from Fitchburg State and another from the Weymouth Arts Council, Hoffman was able to compose a 20 minute drama entitled "Lenny and Skip." After proposing and writing the script, Hoffman changed hats as he held two to three weeks of auditioning students from the Weymouth school system and various other teen actors and actresses from the South Shore. With 17 year old camera men and sound producers, Elliot Hoffman, Director/Producer, completed this touching short story of friendship, growing up and the problems of substance abuse.

The focal point of the story is two

friends who feel that they'll always be together as best friends. After a series of events that show each of their individual personalities, and an accidental turn of events involving alcohol, the two find themselves more distant and apart than each would have ever wanted to believe.

Hoffman is currently completing the finishing touches of this film; and is currently working on the distribution of "Lenny and Skip" to junior and senior high school and private educational channels.

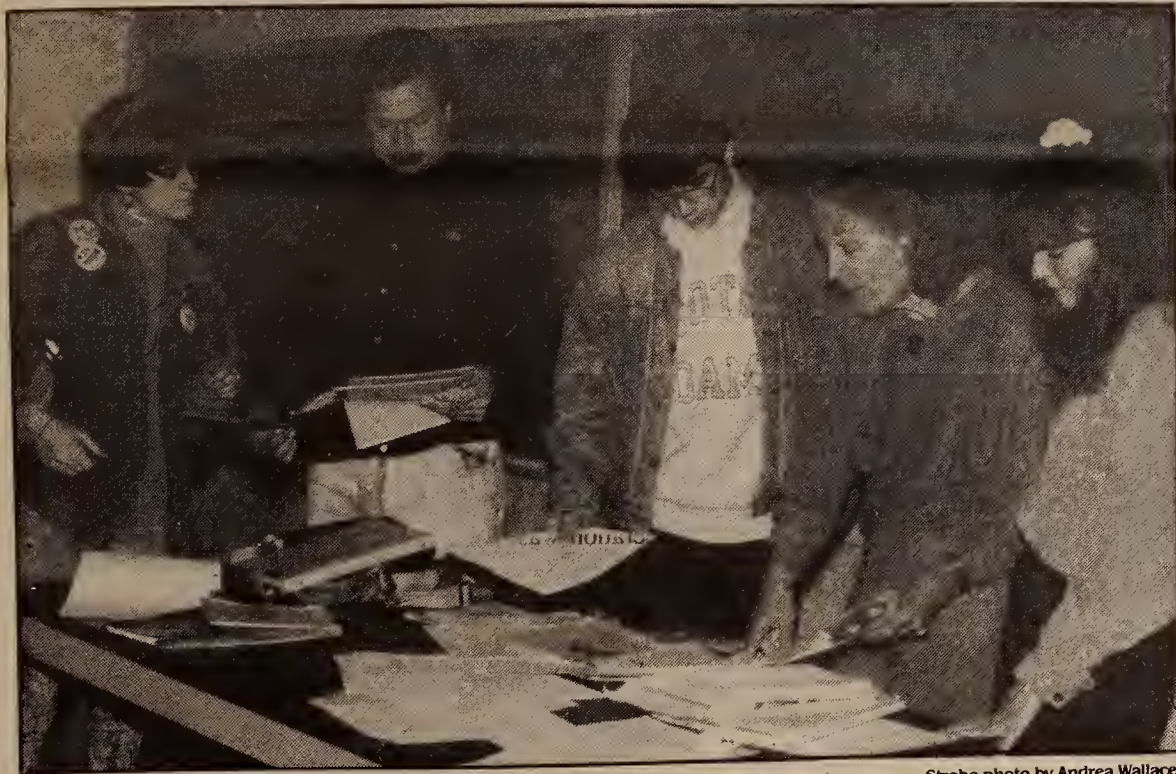
Hoffman explains that there is a shift now occurring in TV and that network television will no longer have the hold on the viewing public due to cable, video and specialty stations such as movie, music and children's networks. This is also providing newer opportunities for outside network producers.

Hoffman's next new endeavor is "The New Teacher," a documentary currently in its research and pre-production (preliminary) stages. Its purpose is to explore the training and education of college students in the education field. This will also include discussions and debates that deal with everyday teaching situations and coping with difficult or impossible classroom problems. Unfortunately, as the planning and research

began, MacNeil Leher aired a five part series last Spring "Learning in America." Some of these topics were also sketched for Hoffman's hopeful series. "It didn't change the project, it made me take time and reconsider my approach," stated Hoffman who is currently working towards research, planning, and funding for "The New Teacher," as pre-production moves along.

In the midst of it all, Hoffman spends over eight hours a day in the classroom, studio and office here at Fitchburg State. On days when he's scheduled on campus, he wears the hats of an instructor, advisor, producer and critic as he currently teaches two classes of Advanced Television Production and one class in Script Writing. One might think that since he's here for so long during the day, he might work on his outside productions here at FSC. Wrong. "When I'm working on things here (class work), its from the time I'm here to the time I leave and lunch doesn't always find its way into the day."

A hatter Elliot Hoffman will never be, but the roles he has currently undertaken certainly would make one wonder how he fulfills all his roles with such excellence and professionalism.



Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

## Dr. Harris teaches more than who, what, when, where, why

Thomas Mullings  
Strobe staff

Every day of the school week, Dr. Irene Harris does what she enjoys most; working in an educational system. Harris is presently the English Department Chairperson here at Fitchburg State College, as well as *The Strobe's* adviser and a proficient instructor of journalism.

As an educator, Harris is concerned with the current crisis of FSC and all public colleges. With increased tuitions, part-time teachers and courses being dropped she stated, "Public education is important for the future of the country. There are alternative solutions that we don't think about. The essential thing is to

solidify the reputation of the college by the things that we say and write."

Harris also emphasized that she is a "strong supporter of public higher education, because students get a fine introduction to liberal arts and a chance to think over their future." She suggests graduate school for those who want to continue after FSC. Another benefit of public education is the affordable rate that it provides for some families. As Harris says, "Public schools avoid letting the parents hock everything for their kids."

The latest cuts in public education funding has caused much debate in journalism and other classes. An issue receiving a great deal of attention is public versus private education. Dr. Harris has worked at both

types of institutions, having taught at Emerson College and now at FSC. She says there is "no big difference" between either school, with the exception of tuition price. She stressed that there are caring teachers everywhere, whether at public or private colleges. When discussing FSC, she cites the dedication and advanced equipment of the Communications/Media department and the classical tradition of her English Department.

She is confident that FSC students and faculty will retain a positive attitude and survive the difficult times ahead. On October 18, Dr. Harris and members of her journalism class will cover the rally in Boston at the State House to support public higher education.

## Chlamydia: the silent STD

Elaine Rae Murphy  
Student Health Services

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection transmitted primarily through sexual contact. This disease is the most common sexually transmitted disease and yet, the least publicized in spite of its epidemic proportions. Although Chlamydia is easily treated, what is complicated about this disease, is that it is not easily detected.

Chlamydia was first identified as a sexually transmitted disease when patients who were treated with Penicillin for Gonorrhea, failed to improve. In fact the conditions that did not respond to Penicillin were called nongonococcal urethritis (NGU), and it is known to be caused by bacteria called Chlamydiae. In fact, Chlamydia often hides behind Gonorrhea. Symptoms of Chlamydia are similar to those of Gonorrhea. In men, these include pain and a burning sensation on urination and possibly a discharge from the penis. In women symptoms include unusual vaginal discharge and/or pain and burning on urination and possibly urinary frequency. Although the symptoms of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia are similar, treatment is different. Penicillin stops Gonorrhea while tetracycline is effective against Chlamydia.

Chlamydia is often called the silent sexually transmitted disease because in many cases people who have Chlamydia experience no symptoms, and feel totally normal. Among experts, the proportion of asymptomatic males and females vary because it is difficult to detect disease without symptoms. A high risk group has been defined and includes sexually active college students, espe-

cially those who have multiple sexual partners.

Just because Chlamydia can be asymptomatic does not mean it is not a serious disease. Left untreated in men, Chlamydia can infect the epididymis, the duct that carries sperm from the testes to the penis. The resulting conditions of the epididymitis, can cause scarring of the infected ducts and cause future problems with fertility. In women, untreated Chlamydia can lead to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), an inflammation of the reproductive organs, often requiring hospitalization. Sometimes requiring surgical removal of these reproductive organs will result in fertility problems or sterility.

Though the number of people who have Chlamydia is high, it is rare that routine screening for Chlamydia is done even in high risk populations like college students. The responsibility for detection, then, is usually yours. If you have symptoms, be tested for Chlamydia. If you have had a partner with symptoms or with diagnosed Chlamydia, be tested. If you have multiple sexual partners, be tested for Chlamydia routinely.

Although treatment of sexually transmitted disease stops the disease process, some damage is already done. Prevention, is the key to SAFE SEX. Chlamydia can be prevented by abstinence. If you are sexually active, however, then the use of Condoms and spermicide containing the ingredient Nonoxynol 9 is effective against the disease. Aside from using a barrier such as a condom, against spreading infection, it is important to know your partner and limit your partners. Safe sex takes good common sense.

## Alumni weekend, a big success

by Maureen A. Maloof  
Strobe staff

Hundreds of Fitchburg State College alumni returned to campus October 13-15 for the FSC Alumni Association's annual Alumni Weekend. The scheduled activities included anniversary class receptions, athletic events, an awards ceremony, tours of the college, and a concert by Livingston Taylor.

The theme of the weekend was "Halloweekend" in keeping with its beginnings on Friday the 13th. Special guests consisted of alumni whose year of graduation ended in 4 or 9.

The weekend's festivities began on October 13 with the Taylor concert and a sold-out party at St. Bernard's Activity Center, both of which began at 8:00 p.m. Also scheduled for Friday evening was a reunion

volleyball game in the Parkinson Gymnasium.

Saturday's busy schedule included many entertaining activities. The first was a president's luncheon at noon, where members of the class of 1939 and prior to that year were the guests of honor, followed by an open house in the nursing department, and a picnic on the quad. Also planned for this special day was a faculty tea, and the football game against Southeastern Massachusetts University (SMU) at 1:00 p.m., in which the Falcons gained their first victory from a 36-game losing streak.

Saturday evening featured the annual awards banquet with dinner, dancing, and an awards presentation. Music was provided by disk jockey Jim O'Loughlin, '79. The weekend's final scheduled event was a successful alumni softball game and barbecue, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

**Read The Strobe  
Every Wednesday!**





Alex Sum · University of Washington · Class of 1990

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Once a ceiling limit is reached (aprox. 80) we  
will no longer accept personals for that week.

PERSONALS

We reserve the right to edit personals.  
Personals are 35 cents and a Personals table  
is set up every Wednesday in G-Lobby.

Fill out a personal to bust on your roommate, serenade your current love interest, or just to make  
a social statement. 35 cents each, Wednesdays, G-Lobby.

Shannon,  
We haven't gotten lost lately! Keep  
your car on its wheels!

Denise

Jen,  
I hate those rats.

A.

To Tim and Mike,  
I hope some day we can be like  
you. But meanwhile we'll act like  
shmucks!  
Yours truly, Mitch, Jose, Todd

Mary,  
I love you! Let's try again.  
Love, Mr. Wonderful

WANTED: Witchkiller.  
For more information go to the  
Tunnel of Terror  
October 26, 27, 28. BE THERE AND  
BE SCARED

Linda,  
Hurrah for you, you horse's \*#%!  
Scoop much?

B squared,  
Course you're a very nice friend.  
Love, M Squared

To Laurie B.  
I'm sorry. Let's give it another shot  
please.  
Love ya, Mike

To Heather B.  
I'm sorry for what I said, I love you  
and I want to give it one more try.  
You mean so much to me.  
Luv, Tim

Kathy H.  
You are the sexiest editor I've ever  
seen. You are vivacious and lus-  
cious. Meet me tonight and you  
can proofread my work.  
Luv, Gus

Gel,  
Nice cup hold...you can hold my  
cup anytime.

Love, D. Gibson

Mike and Chuck,  
Bungy Bungy bung bung bung.

Feminists of FSC,  
Lighten up. The only way to be  
equal is to blend in and act equal  
not special. Loosen up, you're still  
in college. Do something good as  
an individual and you'll be recog-  
nized.

Mary,  
You, you will be my next VICTIM!!!  
Meet me in the commuters cafe  
at 12:00.  
Love, Mr. Wonderful II.

Chris,  
Meet us in the Honors Lounge.  
Wendy and Steph

Andrea,  
Your red hair turns me on! Light  
me up baby.

Dano,  
Mr. American Stud Style...or so you  
say.

Mmmm

Faith S.  
If Mary can't make it to the com-  
muters cafe, YOU! You will be my  
next VICTIM!!!  
Love Mr. Wonderful II.

D.W.  
In the famous words of Bon Jovi,  
"I'll be there for you, these five  
words I swear to you."

The Big "Rod"  
Been with any "married" women  
lately??? What comes around goes  
around!  
The Lovelies \$ the one with  
suspenders

I have spiked hair, I wear gazelles,  
I peg my pants, and I have —  
head written on my forehead,  
what am I?..An FSC hockey player.

Jen A:  
Would you rather be called drag  
or crash? Drag please.

D.W.  
You just call out my name and  
you know where I am, I'll come  
running  
to see you again.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of Oct. 25 - Nov.1

Wednesday, October 25

NSA CAREER FAIR:  
8:30AM, G-lobby. HAR-  
ROD LECTURE: "Rumors  
and AIDS," Dr. Allan  
Kimmell, 3:30PM, Kent  
Recital Hall.

FILM: "The Birds," 3:30, 7  
& 9:15PM, E. White Lec-  
ture Hall. ACC LONG  
RANGE PLANNING  
COMMITTEE MTG:  
3:30PM, G-06.

HAUNTED HOUSE: 7:00-  
11:00PM, tonight, tomor-  
row night and Saturday,  
ThompsonTunnel.

FIELD HOCKEY: FSC vs.  
Clark University, 4:00PM,  
home.

Friday, October 27

HALLOWEEN DANCE: The  
Stompers, 8:00PM, Par-  
kinson Gym. Tickets are  
\$3.00. Sponsored by Pro-  
grams of SGA.

FOOTBALL: FSC vs. Fra-  
mingham State College,  
1:00PM, Murdock High  
School, Winchendon,  
MA.

Sunday, October 29

FILM: "Pet Sematary,"  
7:00 & 9:00PM, E. White  
Lecture Hall.

Monday, October 30

COMEDY NIGHT: Show  
time is 9:30PM in the  
Pub. Under 21 seated at  
9:15PM. Tickets available  
at the Campus Center  
Information Desk at  
3:00PM today. One  
ticket per person with  
valid student ID. All ages  
welcome. Sponsored by  
Programs of SGA.

PRESIDENT'S OPEN  
HOUSE: 3:30PM, Presi-  
dent's Conference  
Room.

VOLLEYBALL: FSC vs.  
North Adams State Col-  
lege, 7:00PM, home.

Tuesday, October 31

ACOA MEETING: 3:30PM,  
B-26 RELATIONSHIPS  
WORKSHOP: 6:15PM,  
Counseling Services,  
Hammond 3rd floor.  
Continues 11/14, 11/21,  
& 11/28.

Wednesday, November 1

FILM: "Strangers on a  
Train," 3:30, 7 & 9:15PM,  
E. White Lecture Hall.

FULL-TIME STUDENTS:  
Today is the final day for  
withdrawal from classes  
without a penalty.

ACC FULL COMMITTEE  
MTG: 3:30PM, Miller Oval  
Room.

SPEAKER: Itzhak Oren,  
Consul of Israel in New  
England, 7:30PM, Con-  
dike Science Lecture  
Hall.



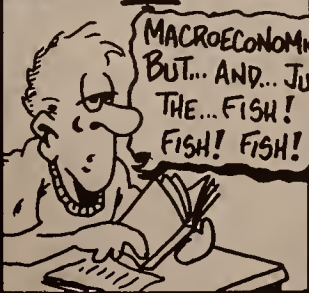
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PART I.

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ON  
GRIMING

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EXAM, PLAY VIDEO GAMES  
FOR TWELVE HOURS. THIS  
WILL SET YOU IN THE  
PROPER STUDYING MOOD



YOU HAVEN'T TIME TO  
MEMORIZE EVERY WORD  
IN THE BOOK. INSTEAD,  
JUST MEMORIZE  
EVERY THIRD WORD.



WATCH LETTERMAN IN  
CASE THEY DISCUSS  
WHAT YOU'RE STUDYING.  
...SO YOU TAKE THE  
ANTIDERNATIVE AND  
GET -2x2 COS 20 !  
THAT'S VERY  
INTERESTING,  
VANNA !

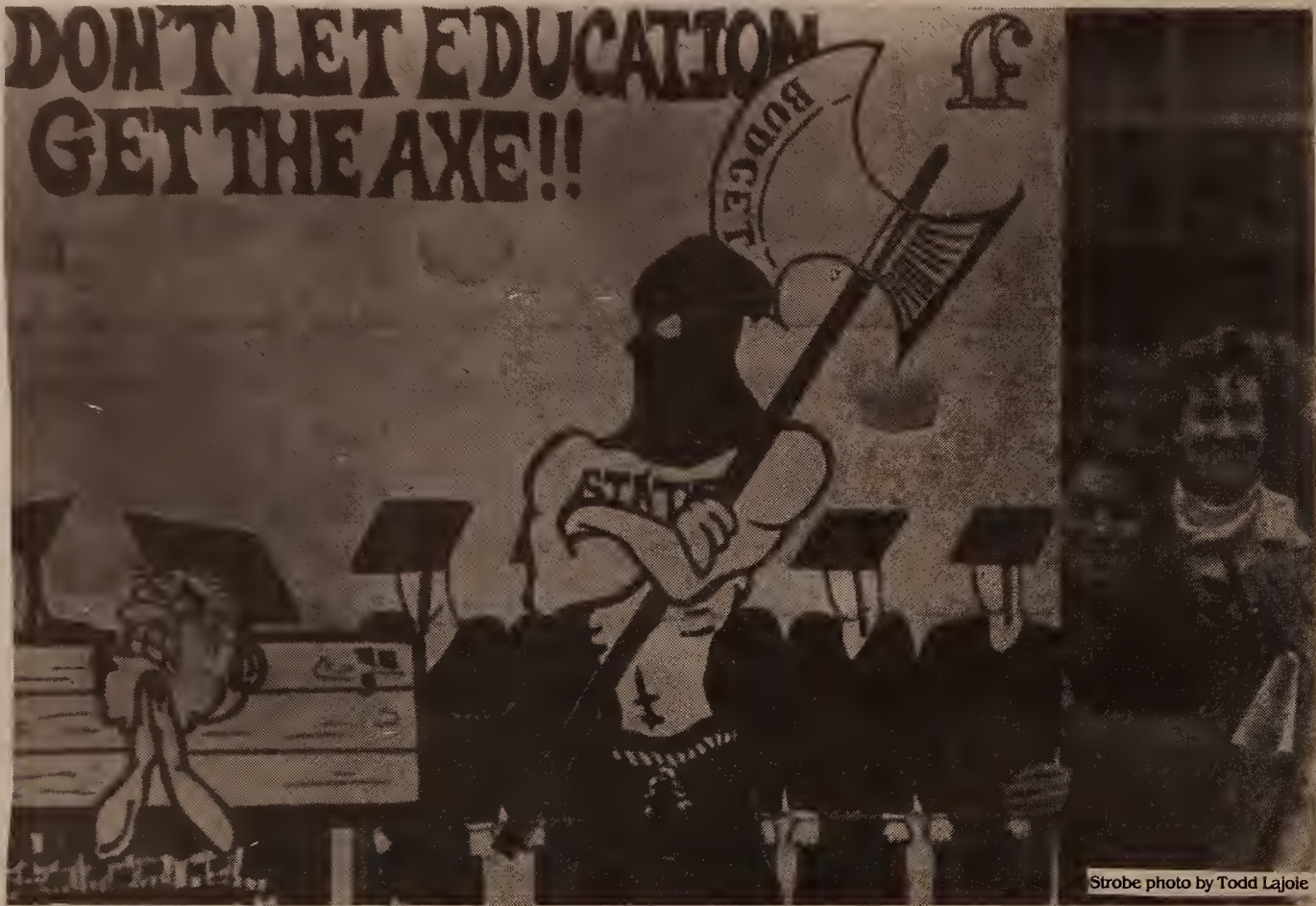


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AND COHERENT AS THE  
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UNITED STATES!





# The student rally



FSC's contribution to the rally was well received



An unidentified protester visually voices his concerns



Paul Tsongas addressed the crowd





Students arrived in large numbers



SCA President Bill McArty and James Buckley display the FSC banner on the Statehouse steps



FSC students joined with others to support the cause



# ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

## Livingston Taylor performs to a sold-out crowd

by Marlene Bell  
Strobe staff

"Hey, we'll do everything! I'm gonna pull a Springsteen; I'm here till 3am!" Livingston Taylor didn't quite play until 3am, but Weston Auditorium laughed, sang and listened as he played a one hour and 45 minute concert on Friday, October 13th, to a sold out crowd of students, alumni and guests.

At 8:10pm, Taylor began the evening with the second edition of *The Strobe* as he joked at the parking issue regarding on campus parking and the 'paranoid' administration. "Life is Good," the title track off his new album, started the first of a three piece performance; Taylor played acoustic guitar, piano and the banjo respectively.

The Boston born folk singer was soon interrupted as he was given a stuffed 'Party Gator' by a fan in the audience. Taylor's humor was not limited to scripted song as he placed the green furry gift on his piano warning him, "No spilling beer into the piano." After impromptu humor and sporadic references to "Party Gator," Taylor shared "Dance With Me" with the audience as he sang the verses and the audience echoed the choruses of 'ohs' and 'oos.'

The combination of comedy and music flowed through the entire performance, as Taylor sang "I Hate Country Music" with a traditional Nashville yodel and "Me and My Girl Were the Last Hippies in the World" with a 1960's hippy tone.

Even Jacques Cousteau's fish escapades were tastefully and humorously sang about, as was Taylor's Golden Retriever dog, Diesel. The Wizard of Oz seemed to be a favorite as "If I Only Had A Brain" was sung with the audience again sharing the spotlight with intermittent whistling in the song.

Taylor left no topic untouched. Next stop, the Soviet Union. The audience roared with laughter when Taylor sang "rock'n'roll Rolling Stone" style" with the song "Over In The Soviet Union," complete with guitar strumming and arms flying. The Soviet Union, according to the song, is "run by a lot of guys who don't get a lot of exercise; they got a lot of hair between their eyes, over in the Soviet Union."

Taylor briefly shifted gears to a beautifully romantic performance of "I Will Be in Love With You." It sounded as fresh and clear as the studio recording, which shows the purity of Taylor's voice and music. During the instrumental portion of the ballad, Taylor gave the impression that he loved to play without singing or even thought of words.

Not only did Taylor combine comedy and music, but he also gave a short monologue of personal background. Born in Boston Massachusetts, Taylor moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Taylor left home at age sixteen. "I meant to work at Disney Land in Orlando, Florida, but I took a right instead of a left and ended up in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It's cold, dirty, unfriendly and expensive but I call it home." The

crowd, without hesitation, burst into a welcoming applause as he announced his residence in Massachusetts.

Without an intermission, Taylor went from the acoustic guitar to the piano for four songs, and then to the banjo. Taylor played bluegrass music, as well as returning to his comedy routine. He made everyone laugh yet again by discussing and singing 'songs that should never be played on a banjo' which included "You're So Vain" (Carley Simon) and "New York, New York" (Frank Sinatra). "Grandma's Hands" in acappella and "Please Don't Burry Me in the Cold, Cold Ground" finished the banjo segment of the show.

"It's great to be back at Fitchburg State. I feel so at home. Thank you so much for inviting me. I hope to see you all real soon. Goodnight everybody!" With the crowd still on their feet in applause, Taylor returned saying, "I'm not that busy. I can hang around."

Before the encore, Taylor read some personal phone messages and a written request for a song. "I'm a Cambridge Kinda Guy," complete with a Pete Townshend stage hop finale, and a Wizard of Oz medley were the final songs of the night.

At 9:35, everyone filed out of Weston Auditorium smiling from a night of laughter, song and entertainment. Alumni Tom Rousseau (FSC class of '76) summed up the crowd's general feeling: "He mixed some good humor with song and I thought it was excellent!"

## ABWH makes new waves

by Ed McGill  
Strobe staff

not be treating anyone as a lesser. Something the government of South Africa should take notice of.

In 1972, the rock band Yes released their fifth album titled, *Close To The Edge*. The album is considered by many critics as the most progressive musical work of the 70's. Now, in 1989, the band members who produced that album are back together. Although they can no longer use the name that made them famous 20 years ago, Jon Anderson, Bill Bruford, Rick Wakeman, and Steve Howe are still making history. Their latest album proves that these innovators can still be progressive.

After two albums and five top 40 hits, with the Trevor Rabin led Yes, lead singer Jon Anderson felt it was time he stopped making music just for the commercial profitability. He left Yes, and called upon three former band mates from the heyday of Yes. Together, they have released their debut album on Arista records, *Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman, Howe*. "I was very bored with the idea of just making music as more of a business sense," explains Anderson. "I just wanted to make some music I felt comfortable with and to progress in my career."

The music which Anderson is talking about, contains all the aspects of a classic Yes album. The record mixes long and unusual musical arrangements, with the inspired and recognizable vocals of Jon Anderson. "Brother of Mine", the albums first single, best represents the mood of the album. The song deals with how people should take a look at themselves and their lives before judging others. They say all people in the world are brothers, and we should

"Quartet", a ten minute song in four parts, describes the meeting of a man and woman, how they separate, and end up back together again. Anderson sings: *I wanna learn more about you! we haven't spoke in quite a while. just let me, let me come through! I'll give you my heart, my love for life*

"Quartet" also features the acoustic guitar work of Steve Howe. Once known for his lightning speed on electric guitar, Howe prefers the acoustic nowadays. "People used to say I played too fast," says Howe. "But now I want to find out what I can do with my guitar besides overdoing it. I don't get a lot out of some of the new players (Eddie Van Halen, etc...), they haven't got a certain sense of maturity, and that is a hard thing to develop."

Howe has developed that maturity. Playing in such groups as GTR, Asia and of course Yes. How does he compare the new material with the Yes classics? "I think it's (The new material) got a lot of flair and imagination," explains Howe. "Looking back, I think it's quite a phenomenon of how we wrote the music we did in the 70's. I don't now if we'll ever write anything as good as that again, but maybe with this first album we've only set the stage for the future."

As for the future, Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman and Howe plan to have a new album by the summer of 1990. Anderson hopes to blend the new age music sound, with that of contemporary rock. He hopes to define the sound of the 90's this way, and after their past accomplishments, who could argue with them?

## FSCFP offers culture to college and community

by Bridget Douillette  
Strobe staff

Arts and culture are in the air at Fitchburg State. Go ahead, take a sniff. It's there and it is smelling better. One of the newer scents this Fall is the theatre group: the Fitchburg State College Falcon Players (FSCFP). "What happened to Stageright" you ask? The response from one member of FSCFP was that that Stageright is no more. So don't get the FSCFP members confused with the old theatre group. These people are serious about acting and serious about entertaining FSC and the community. Their constitution states that the purpose of the FSCFP is "to open minds of the college and community of Fitchburg to art and culture." But these people also know how to have fun. They have finally found a permanent rehearsal area after using any available space they could get their hands on. Wherever

they are, you can hear laughter amidst the reading of lines. "Yes, we are serious, but we have a good time," states Mary Benjamin, a member of FSCFP.

On Saturday afternoon, October 14th, the FSCFP made their first appearance performing "The Miss Witch Contest" for all children of the alumni. It was in mode for the upcoming Halloween spirits and celebrations, as many infamous characters were portrayed. They included such evil doers as the Wicked Witch of the West from *The Wizard of Oz*, the Wicked Queen from *Sleeping Beauty* who dropped her poison apple into the hand of an unsuspecting alumni, and Vampira, who made numerous genial indications of her thirst. There is a lot of talent in this group, and after seeing their first appearance which was geared for a younger audience, I anticipate their first performance for Fitchburg State College and the community will force people to inhale the ambrosial qualities permeating the FSC campus.



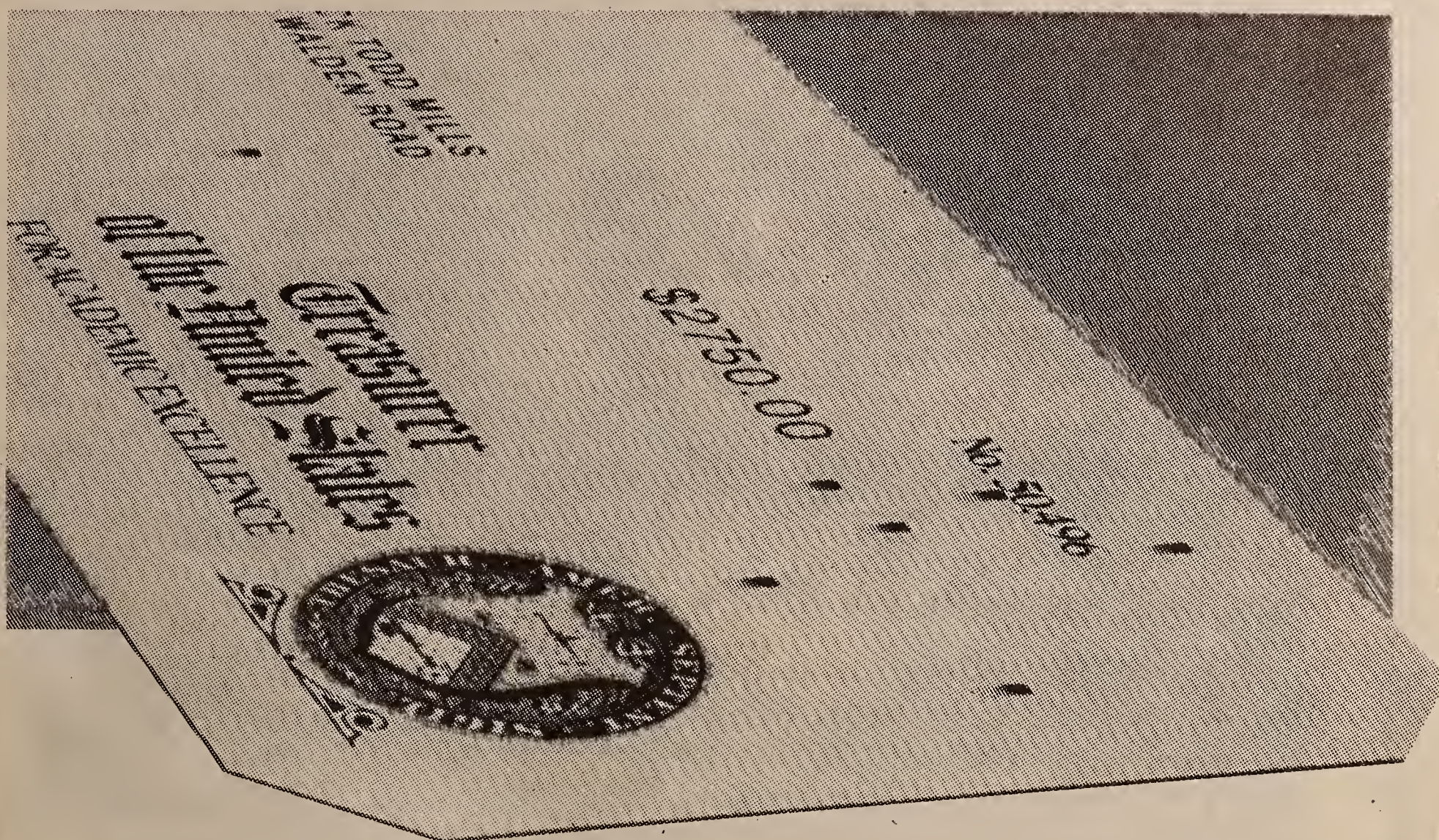
Livingston Taylor

Strobe photo by Andrea Wallace

**Read The Strobe Every Wednesday!**



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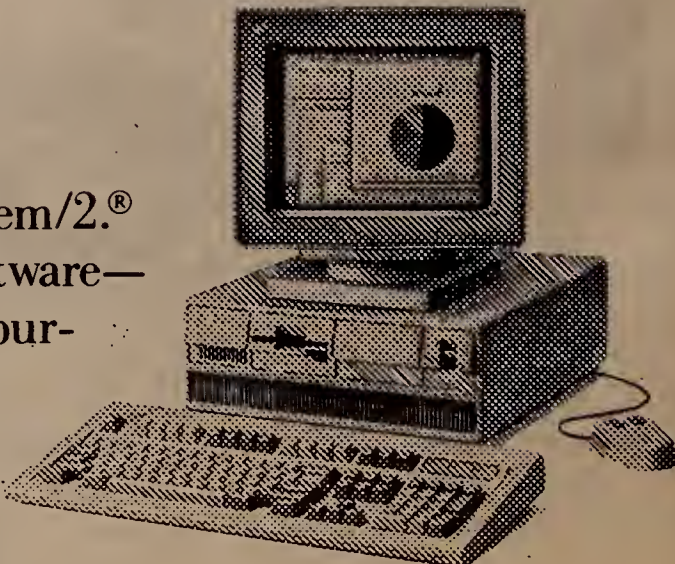


*“My chem lab report is due Monday.  
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And the big game’s tomorrow.”*

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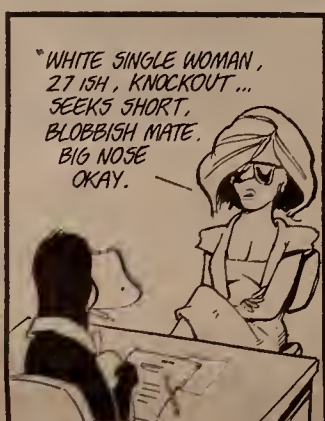
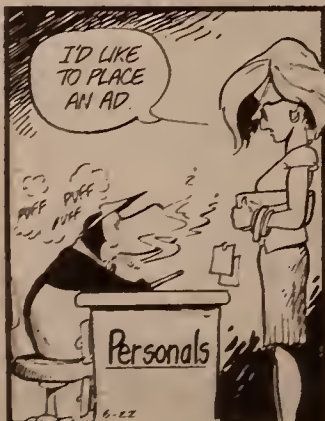
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## BLOOM COUNTY



by Berke Breathed



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**FAKE YOUR  
LICENSE...  
LOSE YOUR  
LICENSE**



Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Michael S. Dukakis, Governor



# SPORTS

## Field Hockey team struggles

by Lisa Watters  
strobe staff

It's been a tough time for the Fitchburg State College field hockey team in the past couple weeks. Although they have aquired a win in their past three games, their record is now only 1-5.

The girls played an excellent game against New England College on October 5th, their first home game that was not canceled due to weather conditions. They started out slow in the first half. NEC scored the first goal of the game with ten minutes remaining in the first half. As soon as that goal was scored, the attitude of the Lady Falcons switched to anger.

As the second half began, Jennifer Kapenas scored her first goal of the season. This was the spark that allowed the Lady Falcons to retrieve the field and fight for the win they deserved. Lisa Watters followed with a blistering shot of her own which gave the team a 2-1 advantage. NEC came back quickly to tie the game, but Laura Freely scored a thrilling goal from the edge of the circle to regain the lead for the Lady Falcons.

NEC climbed back and tied the game at 3-3. As the clock ticked

away, with under a minute left to play, Debra Watters blasted a shot past the NEC goaltender, with an assist from sister Lisa, to lift the team to their first victory. Jara Dupere, a freshman, received player of the game honors for her play at right wing.

The attitude after this game increased the pride and confidence of the players, but unfortunately it hasn't help produce any other victories. The Lady Falcons traveled to Maine to play a tough game against the University of Southern Maine, the #1 team in New England. The girls played tough, allowing only two first half goals. Giena Urbani received player of the game honors for her outstanding goaltending.

The girls lost again last Monday against Westfield State in a home game. The girls played another tough game, but once again, they did not play as a team. The final score was 3-1. The Lady Falcons had two excellent scoring bids on breakaways by Laura Freely and Christine Faugno, but they were turned away. They provided the only Fitchburg goal in the second half with an assist from Cheryl Decourcey. The Lady Falcons still possess that winning attitude and hope to win their remaining games.



## Men's track team off to a fast start

by Mike Ippolito  
Strobe staff

One of Fitchburg State College's less publicized teams, the men's cross country team has quietly run its way halfway through another successful season. On October 14th, Fitchburg's Cogsall Park was the site of the 1989 Massachusetts State College Division 3 Championship. Fitchburg, for the third year in a row, finished second out of eight teams, once again becoming runners up to powerhouse Westfield State.

Leading the pack for Fitchburg was sophomore Jason Cullinane finishing a strong fourth in a field of 65. Jason was followed by newcomer Francisco Hernandez, a transfer student from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, who is eligible for three more cross country seasons at Fitchburg State. Third in the Fitchburg pack was senior captain Stephen Gomes finishing an impressive

14th. Ron Garon shortly followed Gomes with his best race of the season, finishing 17th. Mark Keenan rounded up the top five with a 28th place finish, a solid performance indeed.

Fitchburg's cross country team started off the season with a trio of away meets, at St. Joseph's College, Bryant College and Williams College respectively. With a few exceptions, the performances at these meets were mediocre at best. A week later, Fitchburg held its invitational at Cogsall Park and came in second to Salem State, a team they beat two weeks later at the MASCAC's.

"Personally, I think we've had a decent year thus far, despite lack of attendance at practices by key runners. The individual efforts were there, but the team spirit was not as strong as in past years," stated captain Stephen Gomes. "We're doing better now, and I hope it gets better in the weeks to come."

## Superstition runs amok in sports world

by Ed McGill  
Strobe staff

If you're like most people, the ideas of superstition are just as silly as stuffing a cat in a blender. But for many athletes, superstitions are a way of life.

Wade Boggs, the modern day hitting machine, is well known for his superstitious behavior. Before every game, he has to eat chicken. It doesn't matter how the chicken is prepared, he just has to have it. His wife has learned so many different chicken recipies, she released her own cookbook. She claims Wade clucks in bed. In fact, his superstition of chicken is so well known, that during a road trip to Baltimore earlier in the season, a local disk jockey went around to all the local restar-

aunts and grocery stores, and bought out all the chickens!

Many players superstitions, however, are not as well known as Boggs'. Fitchburg State College ping pong player Steve Magni, who last year reached the final eight in the school wide competition, has his own routine he follows before every match. He takes three beers, inserts a hole at the bottom of each can, and shoots the beers down his throat within a matter of seconds. He says this mentally prepares him for the upcoming matches, and gets him ready for parties after the matches!

An FSC basketball player, who prefers to be left nameless, has his own superstitions. "In high school, my girlfriend signed her name on my sneakers before a game," says the player. "Well, that game I scored 24 points. I had her do the same thing

for the following six games and each game I scored over twenty points. It got to the point, that even when we broke up and hated each other, I still had her sign my sneakers, the only difference is that she spit on them also!"

The same player also admitted to a few more superstitions. "Well, I have to put my left shoe on before my right, I must listen to heavy metal music for two hours before every game, and I still have to have someone sign my sneakers."

Whether it's a well known sports star, or just a local, athletes are a very different breed. If something goes right they make sure that they do everything they did that day all over again the next time. And if something goes wrong, you can be sure that what they did that day, they'll never do again.

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